

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kaoru MURASE et al.

Serial No. NEW

Filed November 17, 2003

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**Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH**

Attorney Docket No. 2003\_1666

OPTICAL DISC, RECORDING  
DEVICE REPRODUCING DEVICE  
(Rule 1.53(b) Divisional  
of Serial No. 09/678,651,  
Filed October 4, 2000)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial Nos. 09/678,651 and 09/538,294.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

**and thus no certification and/or fee is required.**

1b. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

(1) ☐ the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, **or**

(2) ☐ the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

1c. ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

**the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and**

**the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.**

2. It is hereby certified

a. ☐ that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or

b. ☐ that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

3. ☐ Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.

4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:

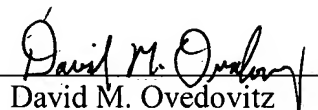
- a. ☒ a full or partial English language translation submitted in the parent application,
- b. ☒ a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- c. ☐ the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page ,
- d. ☒ the concise explanation set forth in an English language abstract,
- e. ☐ the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:

5. ☐ A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Kaoru MURASE et al.

By

  
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November 17, 2003

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Date Submitted to PTO: November 17, 2003

ATTY DOCKET NO.  
2003\_1666SERIAL NO.  
NEWAPPLICANT  
Kaoru MURASE et al.FILING DATE  
November 17, 2003GROUP  
2615

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,568,461	10/1996	Nishiuchi et al.			
	AB	5,751,371	5/1998	Shintani			
	AC	5,703,997	12/1997	Kitamura et al.			
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
	AG	7-93873	4/1995	JP			Abstract	
	AH	8-7282	1/1996	JP			Abstract	
	AI	97/46007	12/1997	WO				
	AJ	0 521 487	1/1993	EP				
	AK	0 896 335	2/1999	EP				
	AL	95/12180	5/1995	WO				
	AM	0 727 780	8/1996	EP				
	AN	0 896 335	10/1999	EP				

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AO	
	AP	
	AQ	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED